Restructuring of NHAI

243. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the board of NHAI has approved restructuring package for the organization;

(b) what is the "flexi-organization structure" approved by the board of NHAI;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are not in favour of restructuring the board of NHAI; and

(d) what progress the NHAI made with regard to inter-connecting of NHAI offices with their construction and toll booths across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) The Board of NHAI (the Authority) has agreed to certain proposals, which includes the following:

(i) Setting up of a Project Appraisal Cell equipped with multidisciplinary skills to appraise and evaluate projects with private sector participation.

(ii) Creation of cells for planning, standardization, quality and safety.

(iii) Building of a permanent core staff fo NHAI.

(c) It has been felt that the issue of restructuring the Authority requires further deliberations before final decision is taken.

(d) NHAI officers are already connected by fax, phone and e-mail. It is proposed to further improve the connectivity by establishing a computer Wide Area Network (WAN) to inter connect all its field offices and toll plazas with the Head Quarters. The tenders have already been invited for the procurement of the whole system.

Roads in J and K

244. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the upgradation of the State Road from